30th January 1931]

Anti-drink propaganda for next year.

*247 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the anti-drink propaganda work will be continued next year;

(b) whether any change in the policy or programme of this work is being contemplated; and

(c) what amount is proposed to be provided for it in the next budget?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The question is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether this matter was placed before the Finance Committee and, if so, what the Committee's decision is?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Finance Committee decided to reduce the amount of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs to 2 lakhs and they recommended that the question should be more thoroughly considered so as to make the propaganda more effective."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government are considering this matter after the Finance Committee has given a decision on it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, there is a resolution tabled on this subject which will come up for discussion to-day."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know whether the Government are prepared to abide by the verdict of this Council on the question of prohibition which is to be discussed to-day?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The question is hypothetical."

Finance

Retrenchment in expenses on administration.

*248 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any proposals for retrenchment in the expenses of administration and if so, in what direction and to what extent?

A.—The Government have not at present under consideration any proposals for general retrenchment.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know what is the expected deficit for the next year?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The hon. Member will have full information when the Budget is presented."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that there is a deficit, in view of the fact that it is now many years since retrenchment was effected and in view of the fact that during the last so many years the posts that were abolished according to the recommendations of the last Retrenchment Committee have been restored, may I know whether the Government will be willing to appoint a Retrenchment Committee now?"